

The Fulton County News.

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THE GRIM REAPER.

Short Sketches of the Lives of Persons Who Have Recently Passed Away.

LYDIA A. TRITILE.

Mrs. Lydia A. Tritile passed away at the home of her son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. A. Comerer in Ayr township on Thursday morning, February 17, 1916, at the age of 79 years, 5 months, and 12 days. The funeral, conducted by her pastor, Rev. R. E. Peterman, of the Lutheran church, took place on Saturday morning, and interment was made in Union cemetery. While Mrs. Tritile had been in frail health for several months, she took gripe a few weeks ago, and she did not possess sufficient vitality to withstand the attack.

The deceased was born near Waynesboro, and on Valentine Day, 1860, she was united in marriage to J. George Tritile, of Ayr township, this county, and they went to housekeeping on the farm at present owned by the McGoverns, and lived there until about twenty years ago, when they moved to McConnellsburg, where the husband died on the 14th day of March, 1906.

To Mr. and Mrs. Tritile were born nine children, six of whom are living, namely, Scott, Annie wife of James Fryman, Frank, Jacob Walter, Allen Winter, and Etha May, wife of Geo. A. Comerer. There are, also, 13 grand-children, and two great-grand-children.

CALEB AKERS.

Caleb Akers was born on the original Akers farm 1 mile from Akersville, this county, on 17th day of June, 1836, and died in Keyser, W. Va., on Monday, February 14, 1916, aged 79 years, 7 months, and 28 days. He was a direct descendant of Ephraim Akers, Sr., the first of the name to settle in Brush Creek Valley. On this farm he was reared, and with his wife Mary A. Akers, he resided there until 1898, when his family were well grown, when he removed with his family to Keyser, W. Va., where he spent the remainder of his days. To Caleb and Mary Akers were born eleven children, all of whom are living, as is also the mother.

The deceased was a man of unimpeachable character, and possessed high aspiration for the welfare of his family. His one thought seemed to be for their comfort and advancement. With his fellow-men, he was the soul of honor, and his word, always as good as his bond. He had so lived, that when he came to the close of almost fourscore years, he could say with a smile lighting his face, "I am ready to go."

MRS. JOHN UNGER.

Amanda (Alexander) Unger, of Ayr township, died at their home near Cito, Monday afternoon, February 21, 1916, aged 69 years, 10 months and 12 days. The funeral took place Tuesday afternoon, the services being conducted by her pastor, Rev. Peterman, of the Lutheran church. Interment in Union cemetery. Mrs. Unger had been sick about three months and her death was due to cancer of the liver. Mrs. Unger was a daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Alexander, and she was born in Ayr township. Besides her husband, she is survived by two daughters and a son: Annie, wife of Jacob Hykes of the Cove; Alice, wife of David Connor, Hagerstown, Md., and Harvey, residing in Ayr township. Mrs. Unger was a member of the Lutheran church for many years and a good neighbor.

MRS. IDA BARRETT.

Mrs. Ida Barrett died at the home of her sister, 306 S 10th Street, Phila. February 8, 1916, aged 42 years, 7 months, and 20 days.

She had been a sufferer of tuberculosis for nearly two years when death came and God called

OUR DISTANT FRIENDS.

Interesting Extracts from Letters Recently Received from Former Fulton County People.

JOHN H. REISNER, Nanking, China.—Dear Mr. Peck: Enclosed please find an article on "Chinese Cotton" that has been printed by most of the best papers in China, and I hate to think of slighting one of the best papers in America. (I will not feel badly, however, if you don't print it all.) I am always glad to get the NEWS, and it has been coming with fair regularity. I venture to say that home doesn't seem as far from China, as China does from home. But we shall be glad when furlough time comes, and in the meantime we are having a busy, simple, and happy life, and trust, of some use in this old topsy-turvy world.

[NOTE.—There are two reasons why Mr. Reisner's article does not appear in the NEWS this week one is, there is no cotton being cultivated in this county; the other, the article was printed in the Chinese language and we could not read a word of it.—Editor.]

ENOCH C. PECK, Kingman, Kans.—With the fading away of the years I notice the fading away of the figures on my label, and so here goes a check for three dollars to push my subscription ahead. For almost seventeen years the NEWS has been a welcome weekly visitor into our home, we scarcely having missed a single number. This has been a cold winter. Two weeks of good sleighing first of February. Good weather now, and the farmers will soon be busy sowing oats Salt mining as you may know, is by no means an unimportant industry in Kansas. The American Salt and Coal Company are now completing a plant that will turn out 125 carloads of salt daily.

her to her everlasting home.

The deceased was the youngest daughter of T. B. Cromwell deceased. She leaves to mourn her loss an aged mother, three brothers, and three sisters namely, Sylvester, Irwin and Thomas Cromwell—all of Maddensville; Miss Junie, Philadelphia, Mrs. M. A. Vincent, Pittsburgh, and Mrs. Lizzie Jones, of New York City.

Her remains were taken to the home of her brother Irwin near Maddensville, and interment was made in the Cromwell cemetery Sunday February 13th. Funeral services were conducted by Rev. Benson of the U. B. church. Ida was a loving daughter and had a wide circle of friends and she will be sadly missed by all who knew her.

URIAH DIEHL.

At the age of 86 years, 1 month and 2 days, Uriah Diehl died at the home of his nephew, Robert Diehl in Whips Cove, on Saturday, February 19, 1916. The funeral was held the following Monday, and interment was made in the cemetery at the Whips Cove Christian church. He was sick only four days, death coming as a result of an attack of acute pneumonia. The deceased, the youngest son of Solomon Diehl one of the first settlers in the Cove, was unmarried; and, of a large family of brothers and sisters, there is but one left—Moses Diehl, the youngest. Uriah was a good citizen. He was quiet and unobtrusive, temperate in his habits—characteristics conducive to long life.

PAUL MARSHALL.

Paul Elmer Marshall, son of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Marshall, died at their home in Todd township, Sunday evening, February 20, 1916, aged 2 years, 11 months and 20 days. The child had been sick but a few days with pneumonia. Funeral was held on the following Tuesday afternoon, and interment was made in the cemetery at McConnellsburg church, services being conducted by Rev. Yearick. The family have the sympathy of the community in their great sorrow.

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY.

Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin F. Wible Spared to Complete Sixty Years of Married Life.

On Saturday last, Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin F. Wible, of Todd township, quietly celebrated their sixtieth wedding anniversary. Benjamin F. Wible and Matilda Heck were married February 19, 1856, at Three Springs, Huntingdon county. Mr. Wible bought a farm and erected a house before his marriage. They lived in the same house all these years up to July last, when they disposed of their property and left the old homestead to make their future home with their son Frank in the neighboring village of Knobsville.

Mr. Wible is now in his eighty-seventh year and Mrs. Wible, in her eighty-fourth. This aged couple are the parents of nine children as follows: Mrs. W. S. Brant, Mrs. R. B. Cline deceased, Lincoln, Frank, Lewis, Mrs. E. J. Hamil deceased, David, Harvey and Olin. All the members of the family living, reside in Fulton county, except Lewis H. Wible, who is the Statistician, Department of Agriculture, Harrisburg, and H. Olin Wible, teaching in the Pennsylvania Industrial Reformatory at Huntingdon. There are thirty-four grand children of which twenty-nine are living, and thirty-seven great-grand-children. Thus it will be seen that Mr. and Mrs. Wible have a progeny of eighty lineal descendants.

Mr. and Mrs. Wible both came from large families; but, in this connection, we note that Mr. Wible is the only member of his parents' family living, except one sister who is two years older than he. Mrs. Wible is the only remaining member of her parents' family. They have always enjoyed simple life and, no doubt, to this in a large measure is due their good health and long life. However, their ancestors were noted for their longevity.

Mr. Wible is a veteran of the Civil War, having been mustered into the service on November 4, 1862, private, Co. H. Regiment 158, Penna. Infantry, and honorably discharged August 12, 1863.

He was again mustered in the service November 28, 1864, private, Co. K. Reg. 67 Penna. Vol. Inf., and honorably discharged, at Army Square Hospital, Washington, D. C., July 3, 1865. He was present at Lee's surrender at Appomattox Court House, Va., April 9, 1865.

During the time that Mr. Wible was in the service of his country, Mrs. Wible was at home with her four babies overseeing the farm work and, like many other good mothers, she endured many inconveniences and great hardships.

Her Fifty-First.

Last Sunday was the 51st birthday anniversary of Mrs. James B. Mellott, Pleasant Ridge, and in some way or other her neighbors found it out, and her home was filled with friends extending congratulations, and bringing with them gifts as tokens of their good will. Of course, nobody went home hungry. Those present were: Rev. John Mellott; James B., Lizzie, George, Hester Lucy, Mabel, Earl, Lester, Frances, Flora, Laura, Viola, Mary and Lue Mellott; Jordan, George, Ally, Henry, Melford, Mabel, Ethel, Lenora, Mrs. Ally, Richard, Judson, Floyd, Thesta, Ethel, Gladys, Edna, Jane, and Ella Deshong; Florence, Martha, and Jane Wink; Dayton Shives and Mary Morton.

Mrs. Bertha Ramsey and son Frank went to Philadelphia Monday. Her sons Roy and Paul, and her daughter Beulah, have been in that city for some time, and Mrs. Ramsey expects to locate permanently there.

Country Churches.

Is the number of country churches disproportionately large when compared with the population of the community in which the respective churches are located? Is the membership of our rural churches increasing? Are denominational differences as strongly marked as they were a half century ago? Is not the sentiment of federated effort among protestant denominations growing rapidly? These and many other questions have been submitted by Franklin Repository (Chambersburg) to active rural pastors and laymen, and their answers published in that paper.

The following from a former pastor of the Presbyterian church, McConnellsburg, and published in last Friday's Repository will be read with interest by our home people.

"Your communication in reference to the rural churches came a few days ago. I will discuss the questions in order, basing my remarks on what I have seen and read.

"No. 1—I believe that two-thirds of rural churches are diminishing in membership, yet I am fully convinced that a better day will soon dawn.

"No. 2—There are a number of reasons. There are too many struggling churches, too many denominations, where one or two churches could well serve the community, and command a respectful hearing. Then, too, the more active blood flows into the city, leaving the more satisfied, yet less active blood, to maintain the country. I was raised in the country, hence no disrespect inferred. The automobile, while taking some rural people to the town church, has, as a means of pleasure, made great inroads into the rural church. Also the country minister, in many cases, does not understand the needs and the lives and the problems of the country and its people. In some cases the country minister is not an able man. He is poorly equipped for his work. This is an age of doing things in a practical way. In many cases the rural church has failed here.

"No. 3—Church membership in our community is holding its own. Since April first we have received fifty-eight new members by profession of faith. The local Brethren church, known by many as the Dunkard Church, is strong and prosperous. Other churches in our district have become weakened through discord.

"No. 4—Consolidation where possible. This is a hard problem. A capable, efficient minister, residing on the field.

"I have only touched on the above questions, but trust I have been of service to you.

JOHN MACLAY DIEHL."

Fractured Limbs.

On Monday of last week, Joseph Strait, Needmore R R 2, had the misfortune to break one of his legs about four inches above the ankle. Our informant did not know just how it happened. Mr. Strait and his son had been cutting cord wood and they were returning to their work after dinner when the accident occurred.

Will Strait, son of Edward Strait, near Sipes Mills, fell off, or was thrown off, a horse last Saturday, and one of his arms broken.

Hatch for Winter Eggs.

Taking it for granted that proper winter quarters and feed will be provided, the only other "secret" for winter egg production is the age of the pullets. If hatched too soon, they may lay for a short time in early winter and then moult. If hatched too late, they will not mature before winter. In our latitude, for Leghorns, April 15th to May 1st is right time to hatch the eggs. Larger breeds, such as the Rocks Rhode Island Reds, Wyandotts, &c., should be hatched in March and early April.

SCHOOL DIRECTORS CONVENTION.

The Most Largely Attended, and the Most Instructive and Enthusiastic Gathering Yet Held.

The school directors of this county met in annual convention in the Court House last Thursday, at 1:30 p. m. The meeting was called to order by the chairman Levi Keefer, and it was found that 41 directors were present.

The first subject, "School Visitation by Directors" was ably discussed by U. G. Humbert, G. A. Harris, Lewis D. Wible, M. A. Barkman, Clem Chesnut and others. The feeling is, that school visitation by directors is an absolute necessity, and that no director who has had an opportunity, and has not visited the schools has a moral right to vote for any of the applicants for a school at the next school letting.

Dr. C. H. Gordonier was introduced and he spoke on "Rural School Problems." In this discussion he showed plainly that the poorer school districts are always kept at a financial disadvantage by our law-making bodies. After this discussion the convention adjourned to 7:30 in the evening.

THURSDAY EVENING.

The audience was treated to some fine instrumental and vocal music. Space prohibits the enumeration of the selections used but, at least, one half hour was devoted to musical entertainment by Miss Emily Greathhead, Miss Minnie Reiser, Mrs. George W. Reiser, Scott Runyan and George W. Reiser. It is sufficient to say that this feature of the evening exercises was highly entertaining and highly appreciated.

Dr. Gordonier then gave his "Fire lecture." It is needless to say that the Doctor's nice easy way of presenting such a practical discussion containing so much good humor was well received by a delighted audience of nearly four hundred people.

FRIDAY MORNING.

The subject "School Sanitation" was opened by Prof. Clem Chesnut, followed by T. S. Hershey, Harry Henry, Erby Booth, M. A. Barkman and many others, and it was well discussed from two principal view points—the school room, and the out-buildings. We believe that this discussion will better some unsanitary conditions in present existence.

Dr. Gordonier occupied the next period with a lively discussion. His subject was Public Sentiment. After Dr. Gordonier had finished his address, Prof. Chesnut offered the following resolutions which were unanimously adopted:

REALIZING, as we do, the need of more professionally trained teachers for our district schools:—
RESOLVED, that we respectfully ask the Board of Normal school Principals to offer a course of study especially suited to rural school needs.

RESOLVED, That we petition the members of our State Legislature to so readjust the distribution of public school funds that our smaller counties and school districts financially weak, shall receive a larger proportionate share than we now receive under the present plan.

A. D. Hohman, M. A. Barkman and C. L. Henry appointed to secure an organization for the succeeding year made the following recommendations:

President, Levi Keefer; First Vice-president, Clem Chesnut; Second Vice-president, C. T. Layton; Secretary, Scott Hershey; Treasurer, Geo. A. Harris.
Committee on Programs: Dr. J. W. Mosser, U. G. Humbert, and Lewis D. Wible.

We wish in conclusion to thank all who contributed to the success of our convention and especially do we thank the musical entertainers for the excellent music on Thursday evening.

COMMITTEE ON PROGRAM.

FEDERAL AID IN SIGHT.

James A. Stewart Reviews Congressional Action Toward United States Going Into Road Building.

DEAR EDITOR.—Kindly allow space to tell your readers of good things coming. The writer has always thought that federal aid should be given to build and maintain post roads; but for some narrow, stunted, and political reasons, it has always heretofore been refused. The good news has at last come that a bill has been introduced in Congress, called the Shackelford bill, carrying an appropriation of \$25,000,000 to aid all the states to improve their post roads, each state to share the appropriation on the basis of its population and the number of miles of these roads, every dollar to be disbursed on actual building and maintenance of post roads, and not to be diverted to any other purpose.

Our congressman, B. K. Focht informs the writer that the new Shackelford road bill passed the House with but little opposition, and that he is hopeful of its passage by the Senate. Of course, the present appropriation—even if passed—will not go very far in each state, but it will be grand and glorious beginning, and subsequent appropriations will, in a few years, make and maintain all post roads in every state. Hon. B. K. Focht wrote: "This additional helpfulness from the government would greatly stimulate road building and materially aid quality and durability of construction." He hopes this desirable piece of legislation will pass at this session of Congress.

The government, and the people of the United States expect rapid delivery and collection of mails, which can only be done by making and maintaining good roads so that carriers could use automobiles and other rapid ways of travel.

The Senate should have enough public spirited and fair-minded men to pass this important bill. Hope all the citizens of Fulton county will write our Senators, Hon. Boise Penrose, and Hon. Geo. T. Oliver, at Washington, D. C., urging them to use all their influence in getting this bill passed at this session of Congress. Every man will see its great importance if he will but think of the many miles of post roads.

Met Fifty Years Ago.

Mr. P. D. Calhoun, of Harrisburg, and Mr. Jacob Hatz, of Lancaster, representing the W. U. telegraph company, attended the funeral of Thomas F. Sloan last Friday. Fifty years ago Mr. Hatz with a light gang of repairmen passed through McConnellsburg inspecting the lines of the Company. It was at that time that Mr. Sloan and Mr. Hatz met for the first time, and for the last—for while both remained in the service, they never again met. Just a few days before Mr. Sloan's death, he spoke to his family of the time Mr. Hatz and his men were in McConnellsburg. Mr. Hatz remembered Mr. Sloan very well. Mr. Hatz is now on the retired list on half pay.

Goes to Cuba.

After having spent ten days in this place nursing a severe attack of rheumatism, as noted by the NEWS last week, Emory Booth left on last Monday for Altoona. His physician has recommended a complete change of climate for him—Florida and Cuba. The Pennsylvania Railroad Company, by which Mr. Booth is employed, generously gave him a pass by way of southern Florida to Cuba, and he started for the former state yesterday, to be away for an indefinite period. A trip like that ought to help him regain his lost seventy-five pounds avoirdupois.

Subscribe for the NEWS.

HEALTH AND TAXES.

Little Talks on Health and Hygiene by Samuel G. Dixon, M. D., LL. D., Commissioner of Health.

Individual illness places a tax upon the entire community. The prolonged sickness of wage earners is apt to result in poverty for themselves and their families. Indigency and crime itself are often lurking in the trail of disease.

National efficiency must rest upon the sound foundation of health. The reduction of sickness and death from preventable disease should be the first step in our preparation for self-defense. Lord Beaconsfield said, "The public health is the foundation on which reposes the happiness of the people and the power of a country. The care of the public health is the first duty of a statesman."

In some States in the Union there has been an increasing percentage of dependents as they have become more thickly populated. In addition to the enormous losses from death due to preventable disease when health laws are enforced, there is a tremendous annual expenditure necessitated by this growing number of those who are unable to bear their part in the world's work.

The insane, the feeble-minded the consumptive and the pauper are a heavy burden upon the tax payer.

Provisions and expenditures which will aid in the reduction of those things which sap the vitality of the Nation, will aid in preventing the increased taxation for the support of the growing army of the unfit.

Take Notice, Motorists.

Judge Davis of Philadelphia has just made a few very important remarks on the subject of what constitutes reasonable care in the conduct of drivers of automobiles. In the case before him a young man ran down and killed a woman and the sentence was one year in prison.

The driver explained that he had lost control of the wheel and that the car ran up on the sidewalk and struck the woman before he could stop it. But the judge pointed out that inability of the driver to control the car was not a mitigating circumstance, since he jeopardized the lives of pedestrians by his ignorance.

Everybody who assumes to run a motor-car does so at his own risk. Even though proof of competence and proficiency is not exacted by the State as a prerequisite to license, the law presumes that the operator is qualified, and if he is not, he must be prepared to stand the consequences of his acts. Ignorance of how to run a machine is no more excuse than ignorance of the law itself.

Half-Pay 175 Weeks.

Charles, the sixteen-year-old son of W. H. Truett, of Chambersburg, met with an accident in the shops of the Melville Woollen company last week which necessitated the amputation of all fingers on one hand except the little finger. Part of the thumb was also removed. According to the Workman's Compensation act, the lad will be entitled to half pay for 175 weeks by the company in which the Melville Woollen Mills are insured, with the exception of the first fourteen days, during which time he will be cared for by the employers, under the act. The injury is classed as "permanent;" hence the liberal allowance which is the same as for the loss of one hand.

James Seibert, of Path Valley, aged 21 years, accidentally shot and killed himself while in the mountains hunting foxes last week.